

In spite of the criticism, the new edition of this unique book is essential for anyone interested in European butterflies and at £7.95 is excellent value for money. — C.J.L.

The Aphidoidea (Hemiptera of Fennoscandia and Denmark. 1 General Part. The Families Mindaridae, Hormaphididae, Thelaxidae, Anoeciidae and Pemphigidae. By Ole E. Heie. Fauna Entomologia Scandinavica 9: 236 pp., 1980.

This, the first of four planned volumes on Aphidoidea, contains an introduction to the taxonomy, morphology and biology of aphids (70 pp.), a key to the families of Aphidoidea (4 pp.) and keys to their subfamilies and tribes (6 pp.). The subsequent accounts of the subfamilies indicated in the title include keys to genera and species. For each species a concise description is followed by a summary of its geographical distribution and biology (125 pp.). Many of the species and most of the genera are illustrated by line drawings, as are the galls formed by the aphids. There are two coloured plates. The work is concluded by a tabulated summary of geographical distribution (8 pp.), a bibliography of more than 300 references and an index. The book is bound in the soft covers characteristic of the series.

The introductory third, written in excellent English, is a masterly summary of current thought on aphid taxonomy, morphology and biology and will be required reading for all would-be aphidologists. The taxonomic part is mostly not original but a compilation and modification of the best accounts available in the widely scattered literature. Most of the species included occur in Britain and the line illustrations are almost uniformly good. The coloured illustrations, depicting the colours accurately enough, were obviously made from dead or anaesthetized specimens, as is so often the case with coloured illustrations of aphids.

The author is to be congratulated on producing a valuable addition to aphid literature, likely to remain well used for many years. — V. E. EASTOP.

Notes and Observations

OSTRINIA NUBILALIS HUEBNER (LEP.: PYRALIDAE) IN THE CITY OF LONDON. — I have not searched the literature for references to *Ostrinia nubilalis* later than the late Mr. Huggins' account of colonies in the Southend area, but it may be of interest to record that from the overgrown area of Broad Street Station I collected dead stems of *Artemisia vulgaris*, from which several imagines of this species emerged during the second half of July 1980. — R. A. SOFTLY, 12 Parliament Court, Parliament Hill, London NW3 2TS.